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ROBERT KIRKMAN

CHARLIE ADLARD

DAVE McCAIG

THE WALKING DEAD

DELUXE



ESCRITOR
ROBERT KIRKMAN

DIBUJANTE
CHARLIE ADLARD

COLORISTA *ROTULISTA*
DAVE McCAIG **RUS WOOTON**

PORTADAS
DAVID FINCH + DAVE McCAIG
CHARLIE ADLARD + DAVE McCAIG
PAOLO RIVERA
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EDITOR
AMANDA LAFRANCO

LOGOTIPO + DISEÑO *PRODUCCIÓN*
ANDRES JUAREZ **JILLIAN CRAB**

CREADOR DE THE WALKING DEAD
ROBERT KIRKMAN



ANTERIORMENTE:

Después de que fracasara su intento de persuadir a Rick para que se rindiera, el Gobernador mató a Tyreese. Al volver a su campamento, una Michonne presuntamente muerta le esperaba preparada para atacar.



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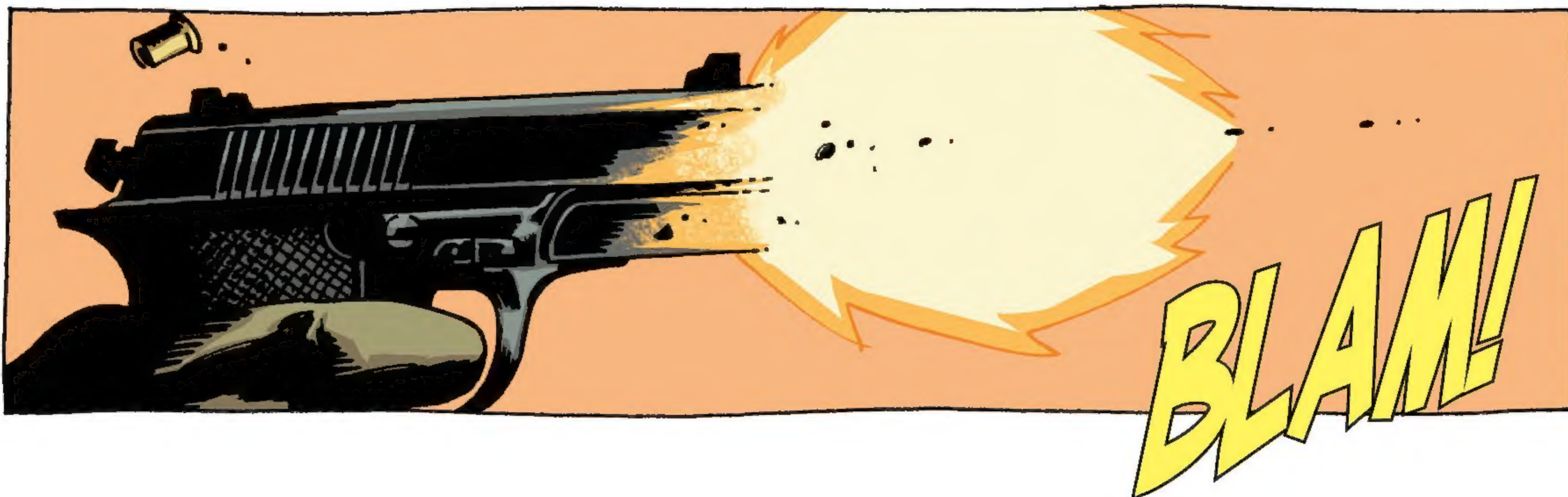


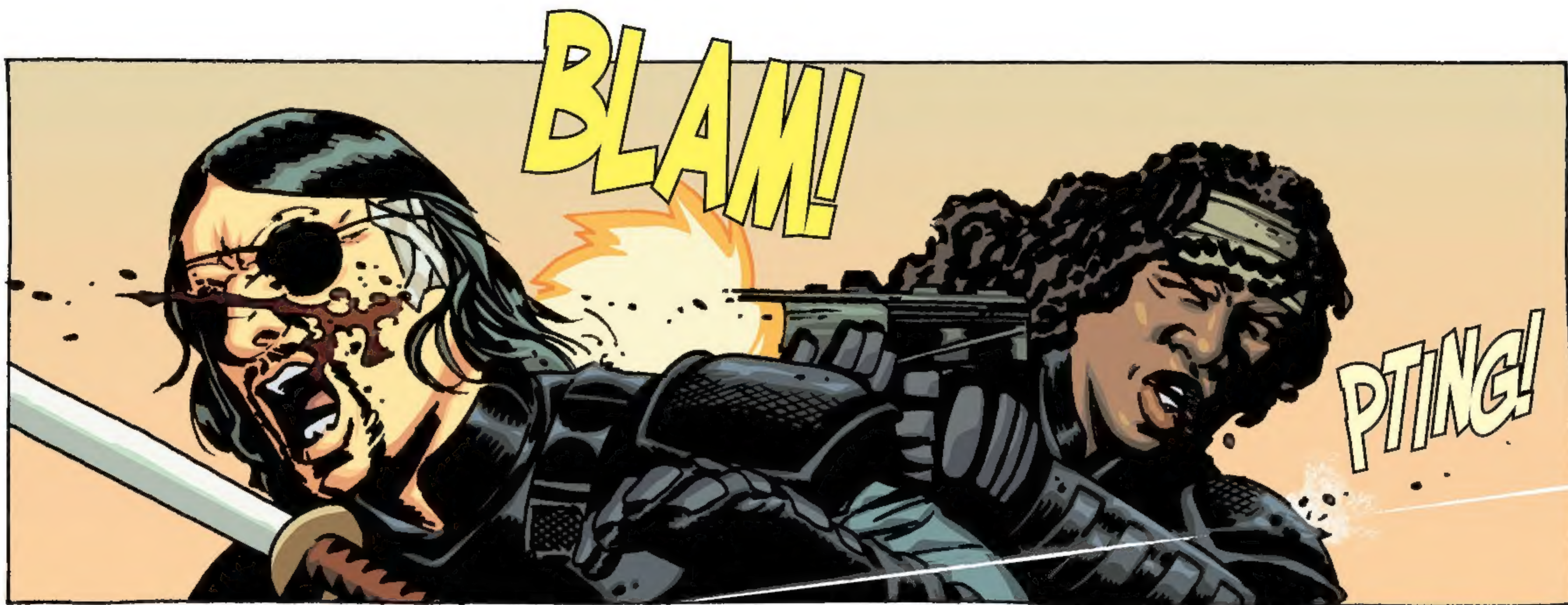
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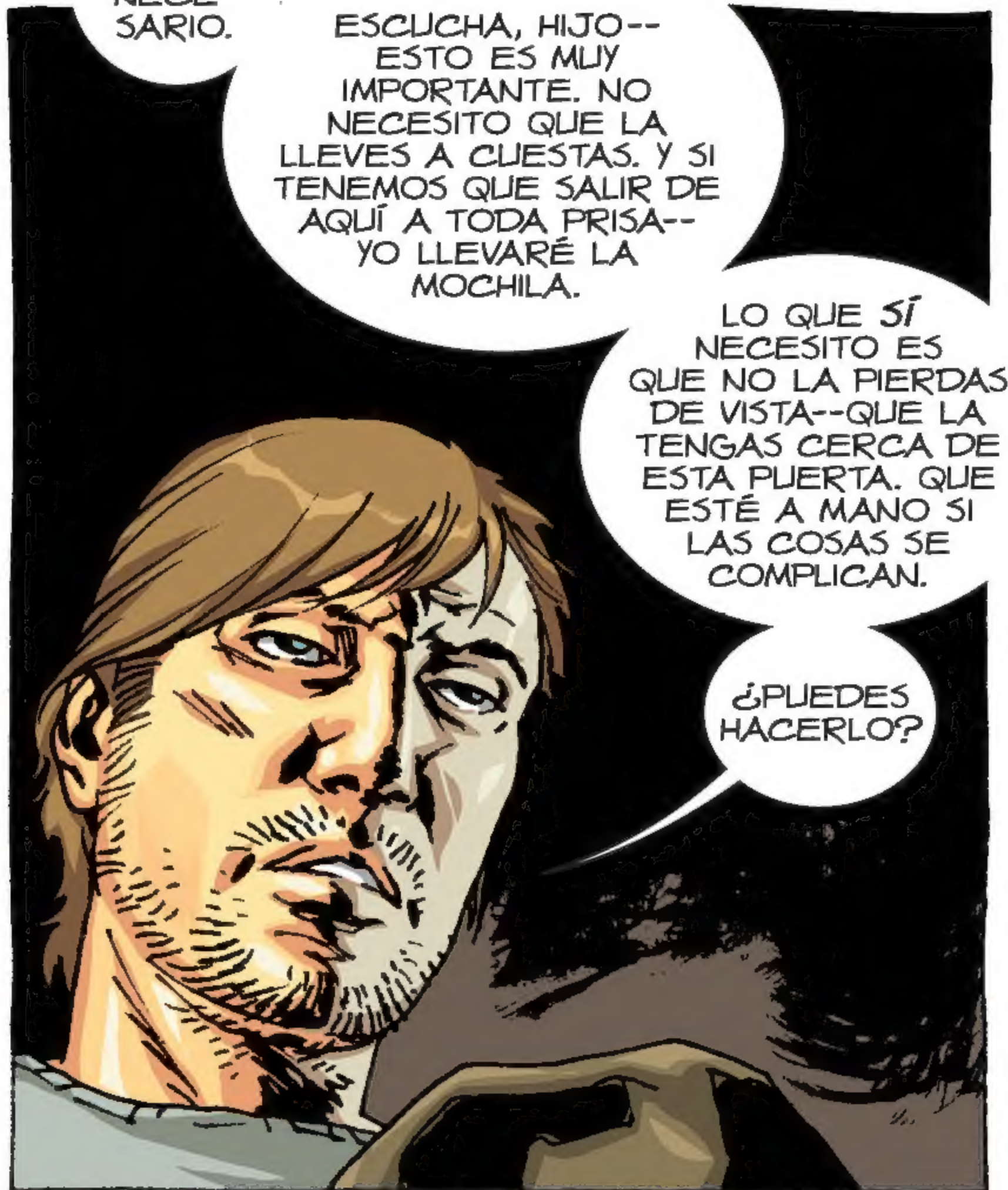
PESA
MUCHO.

YA SÉ QUE
PESA MUCHO--
ESTÁ LLENA DE
COMIDA EN LATA Y
TODAS LAS COSAS
QUE PODAMOS
NECESITAR. LA
LLENAMOS AYER,
¿RECUERDAS?



SÍ, PERO--
NO SÉ SI
PODRÉ LLEVARLA.
SI TENEMOS QUE
CORRER--NO CREO
QUE PUEDA CORRER
CON ELLA.

NO
SERÁ
NECE-
SARIO.



ESCUCHA, HIJO--
ESTO ES MUY
IMPORTANTE. NO
NECESITO QUE LA
LLEVES A CUESTAS. Y SI
TENEMOS QUE SALIR DE
AQUÍ A TODA PRISA--
YO LLEVARÉ LA
MOCHILA.

LO QUE *SÍ*
NECESITO ES
QUE NO LA PIERDAS
DE VISTA--QUE LA
TENGAS CERCA DE
ESTA PUERTA. QUE
ESTÉ A MANO SI
LAS COSAS SE
COMPLICAN.

¿PUEDES
HACERLO?



SÍ,
PUEDO.



SÉ QUE PUEDES,
CARL. ERES UN BUEN
CHICO--SÉ QUE
PUEDO CONTAR
CONTIGO.

VE A
BUSCAR A
TU MADRE Y
QUÉDATE CON
ELLA. VOY A VER
CÓMO ESTÁ
TODO EL
MUNDO.

SI ESTÁN TAN DESORGANIZADOS
COMO LA ÚLTIMA VEZ, NUESTRO
PEQUEÑO NÚMERO PODRÍA
JUGAR A NUESTRO FAVOR.
SOMOS MENOS A LOS QUE
DISPARAR--MÁS
DISPERSOS.

NOS LOS
CARGAREMOS
MIENTRAS--

¿NADA
AÚN?

NO. NO
HEMOS--



¡YA
VIENEN!



MIERDA.
ESTAMOS
JODIDOS.

OH, DIOS--
¿SON MÁS?
PARECE
QUE
HAY MÁS.

NO. NO ES
POSIBLE.



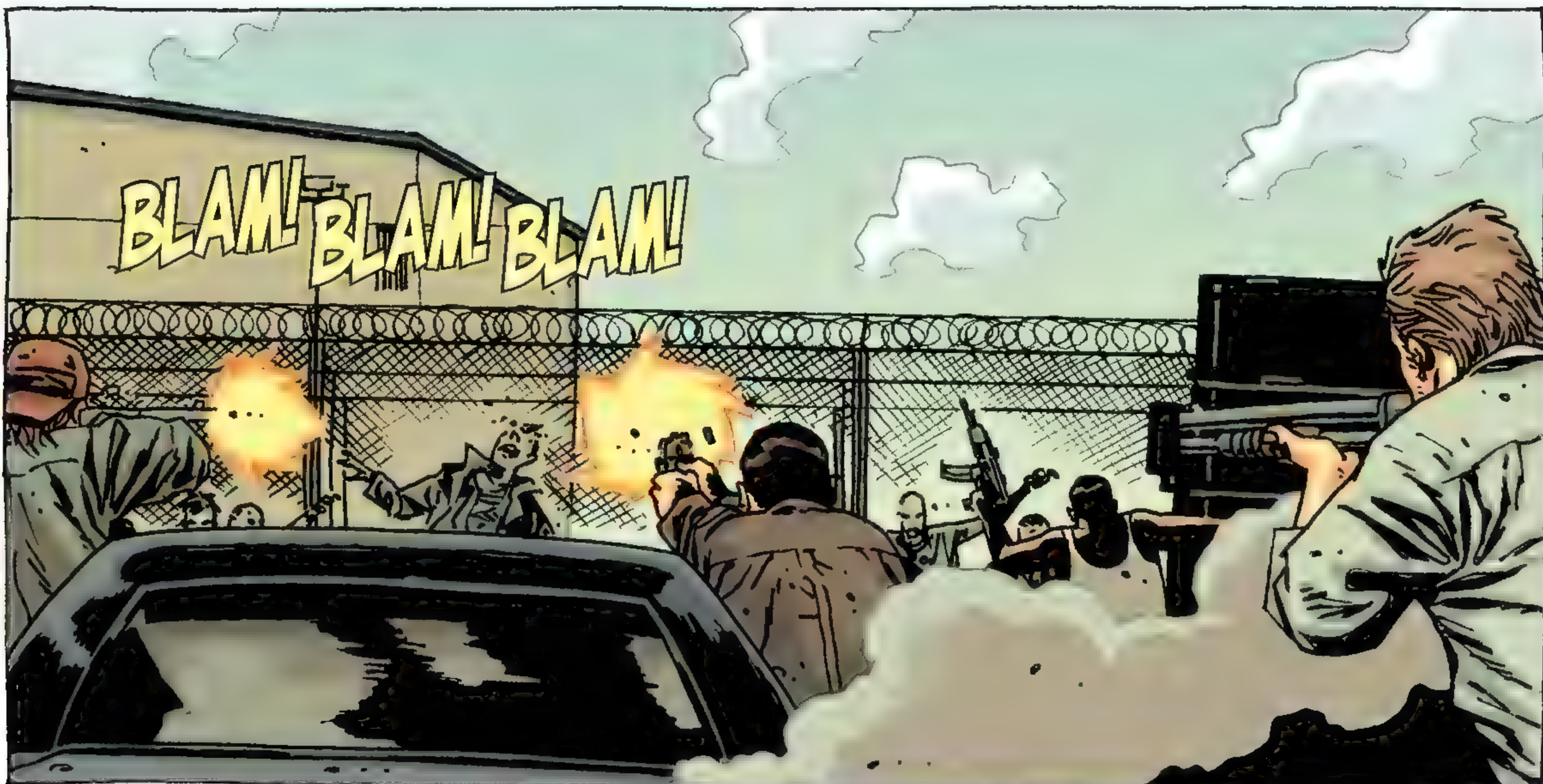
MANTENED
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HACER.

SI TRABAJAMOS
JUNTOS,
PODREMOS
SOBREVIVIR.
PODREMOS--





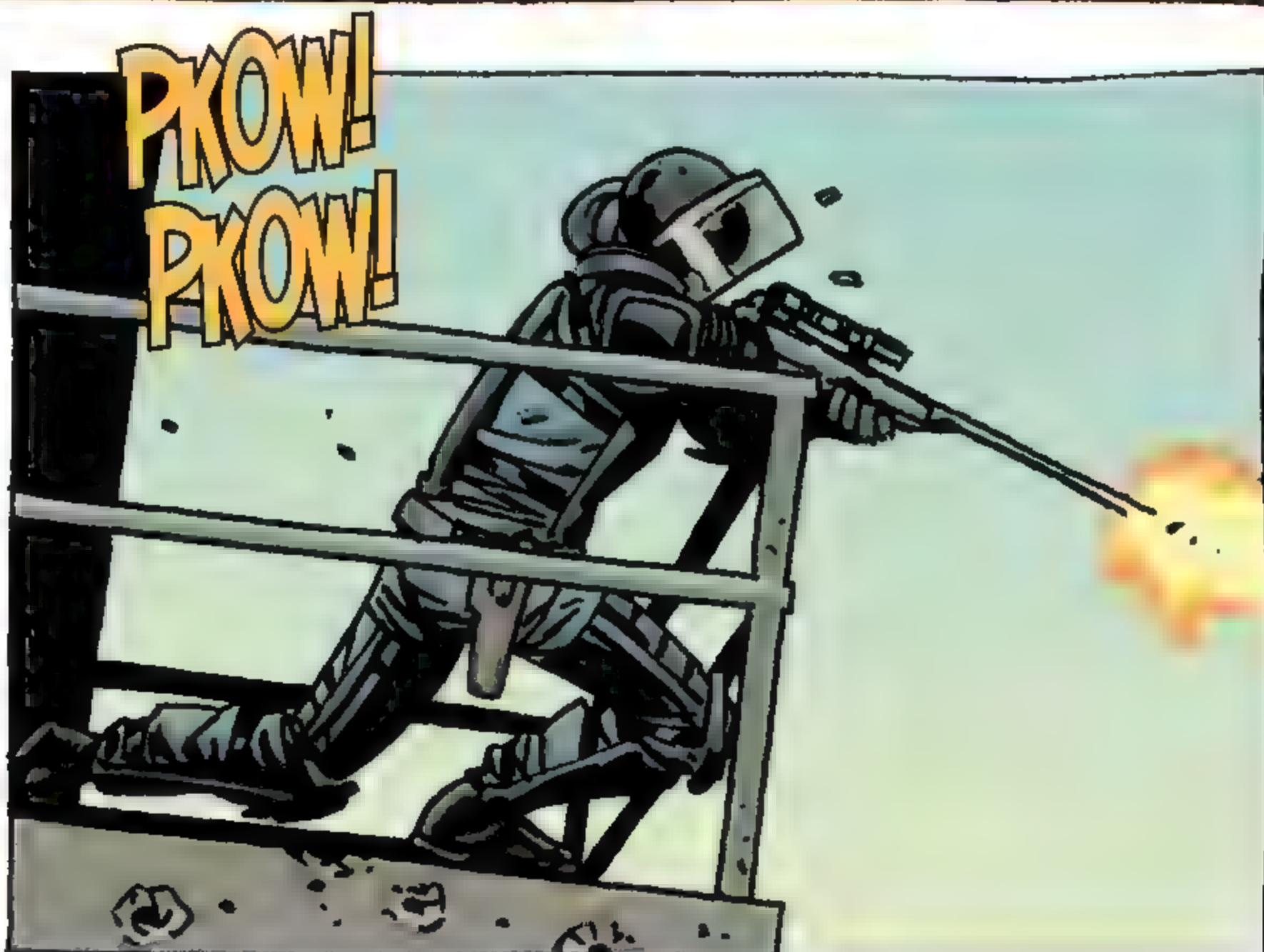
WRANNI!





¡ESTÁN
RODEADOS DE
CAMINANTES! ¡NO
PUEDEN TIRARSE
AL SUELO PARA
DEVOLVERNOS
LOS TIROS!

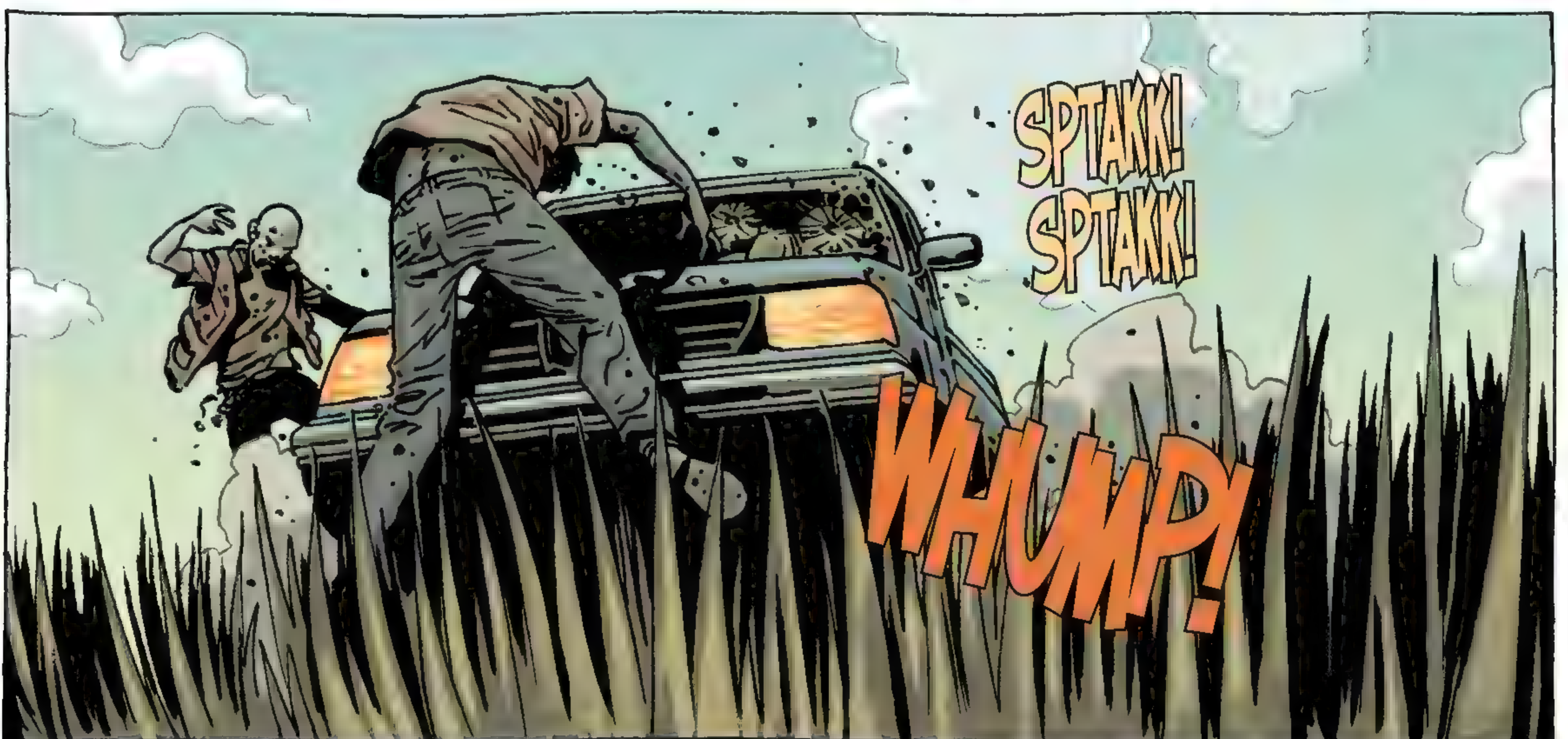
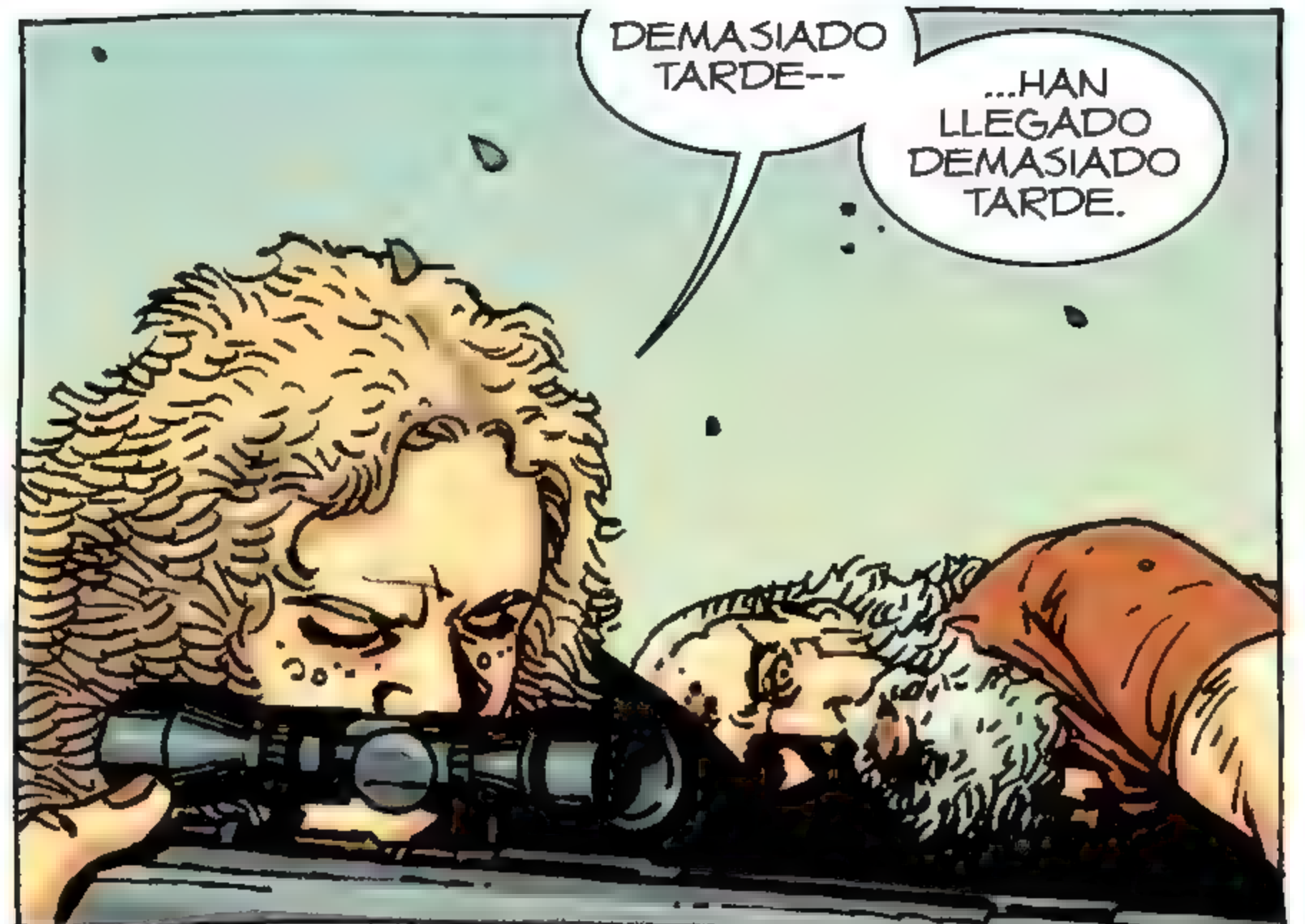








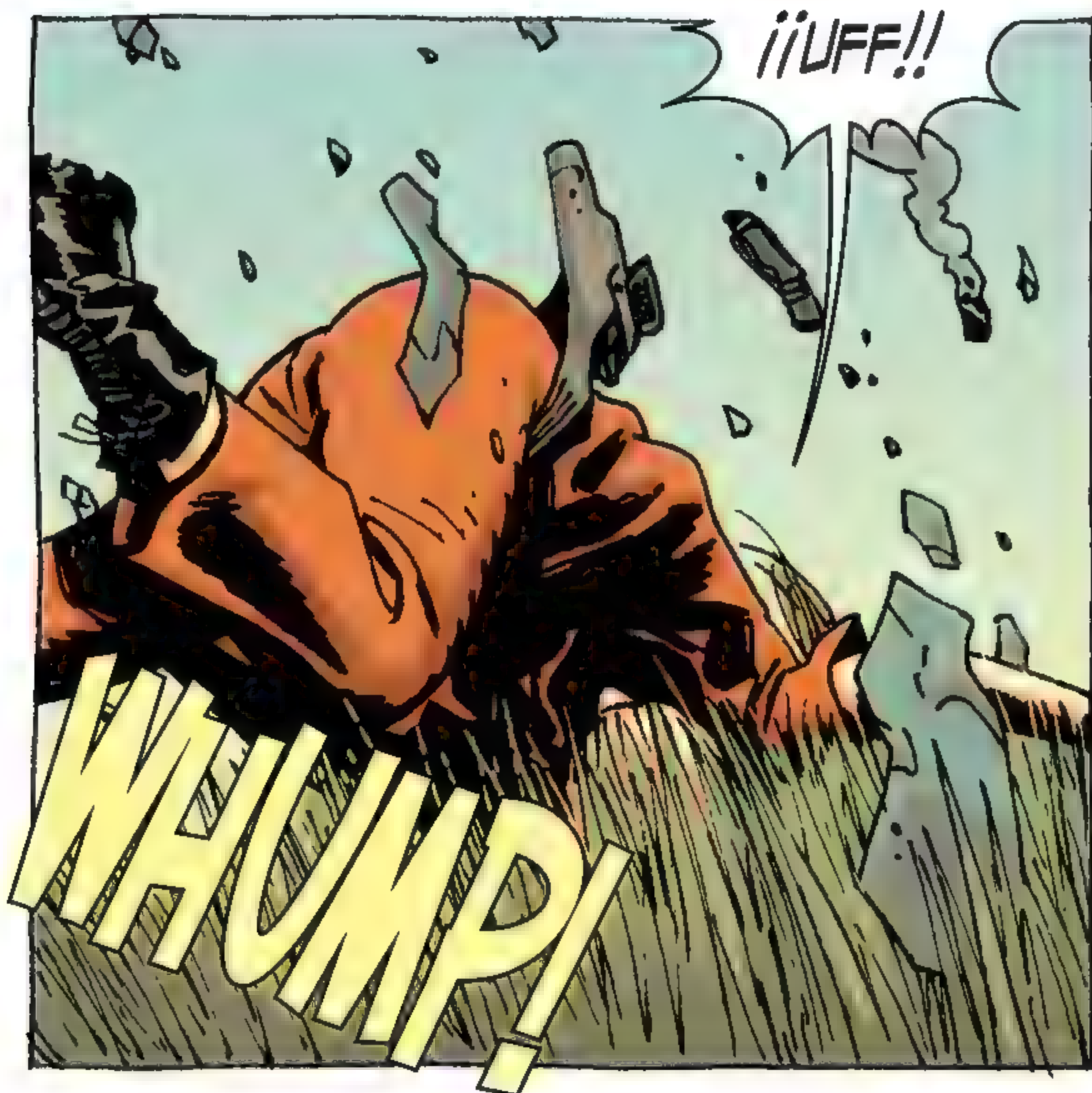
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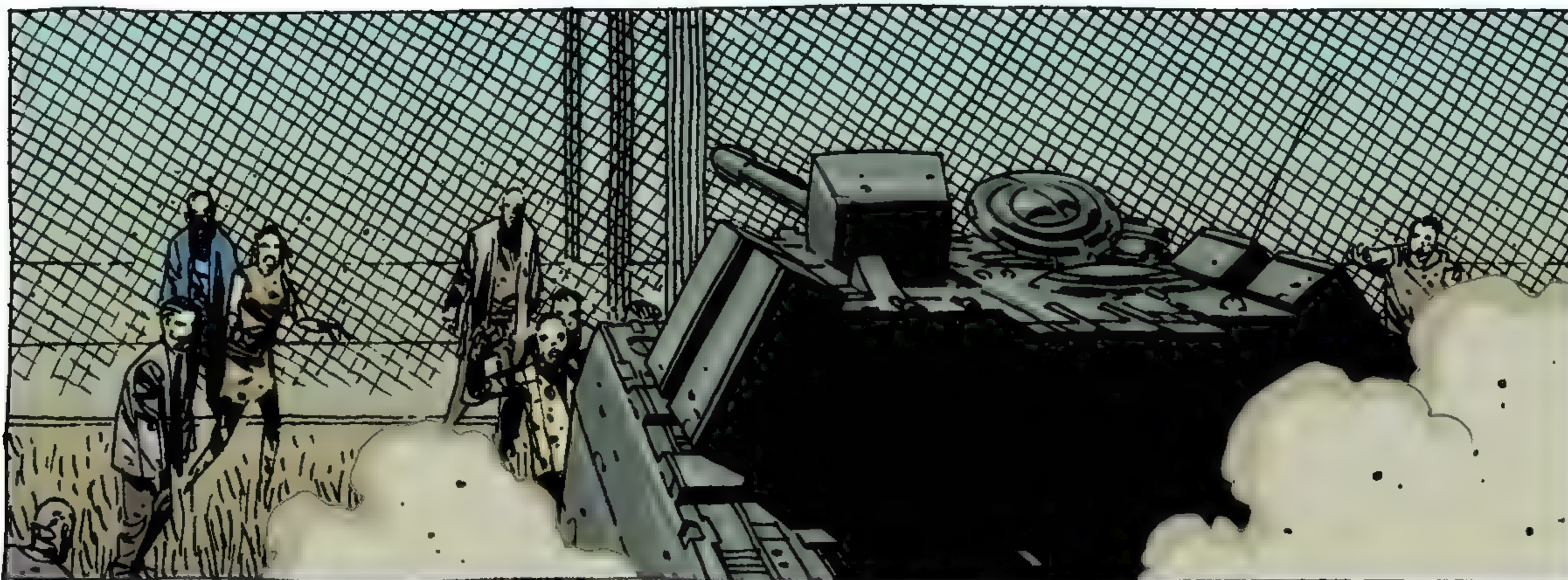


WRA-KOON!!



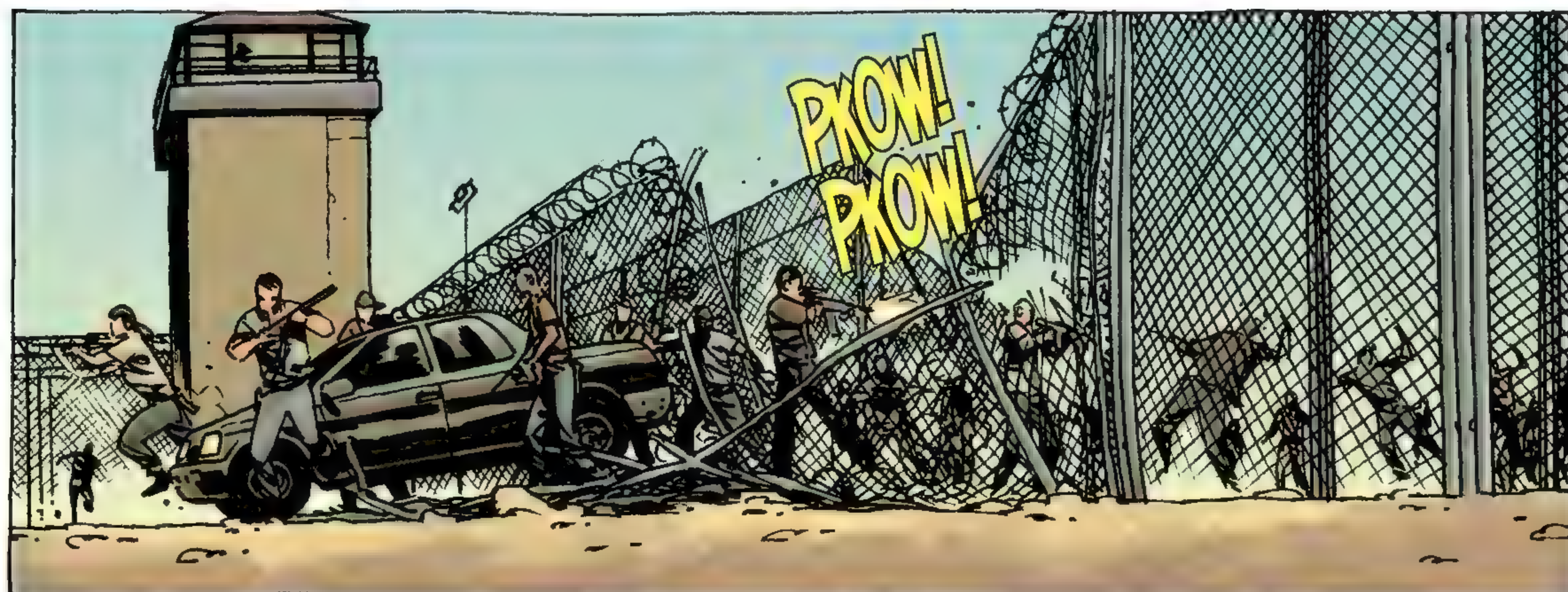
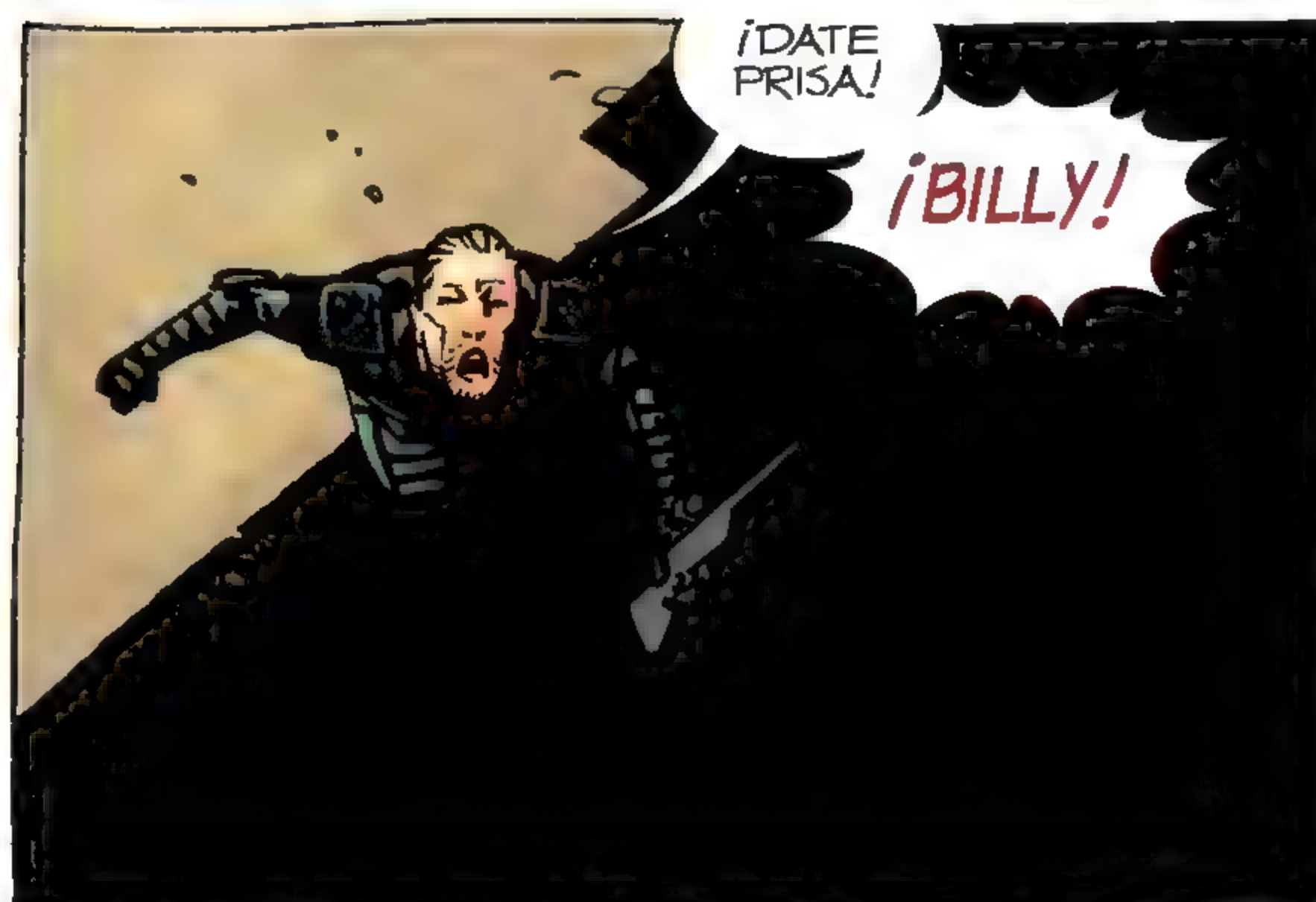
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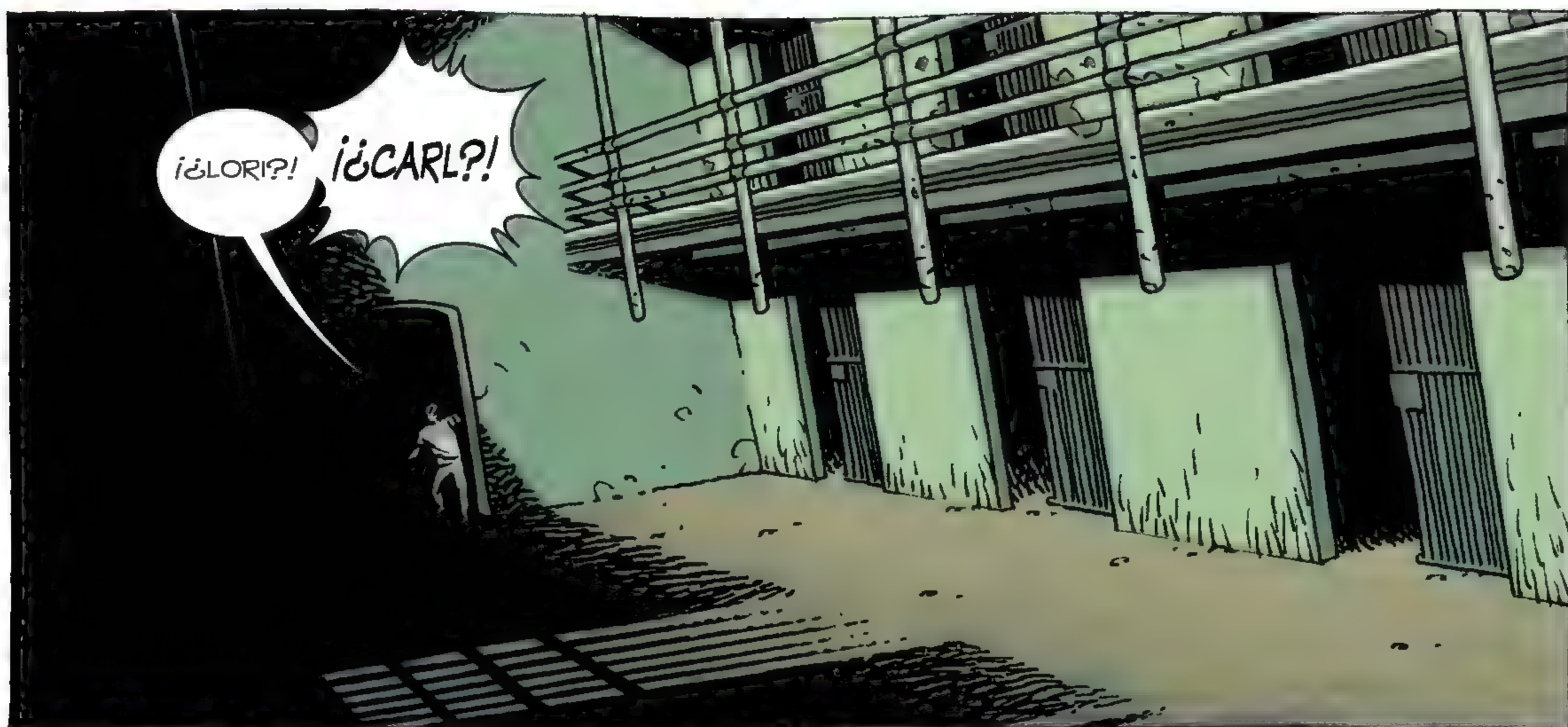
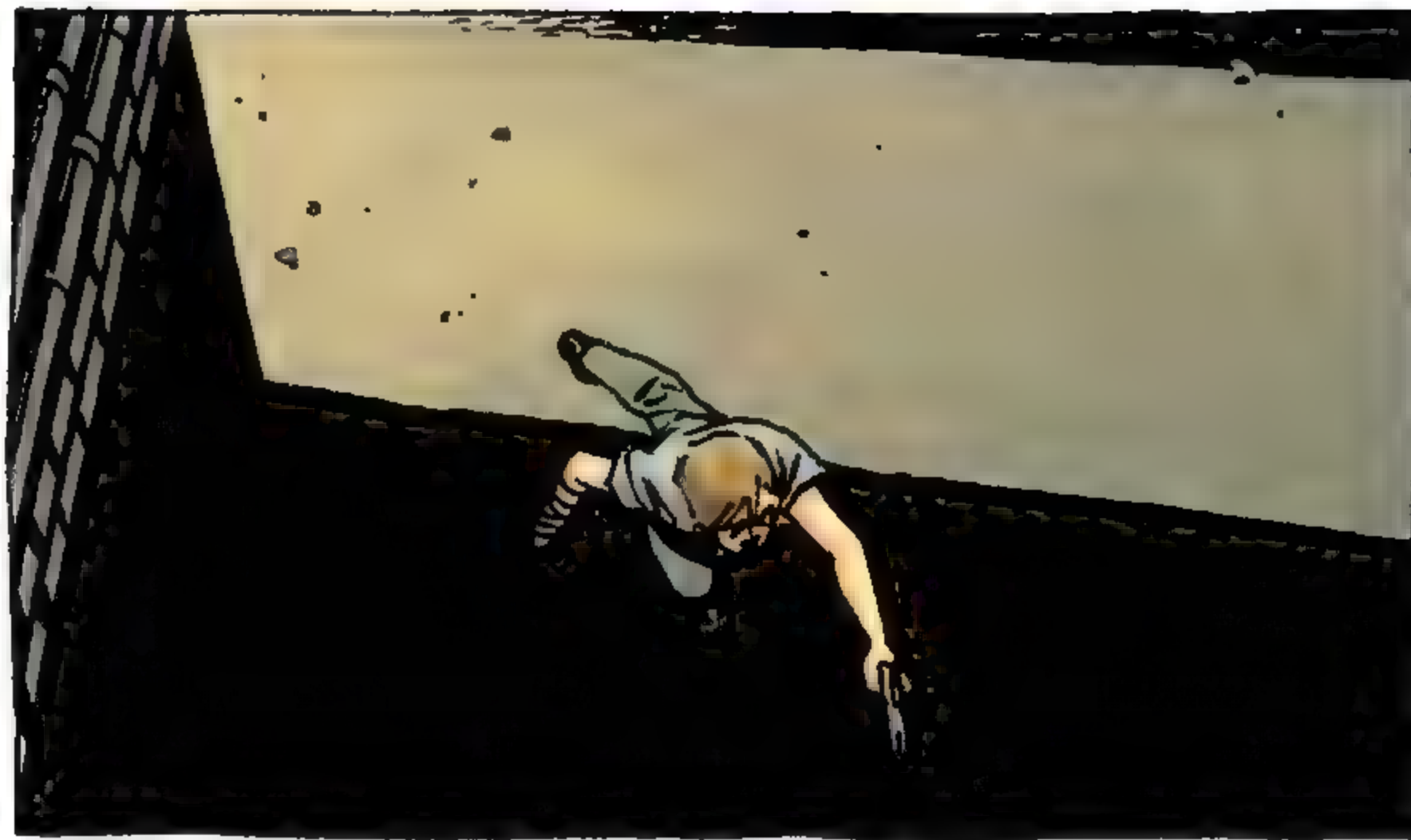






WRATKROOM!









WRITE TO US AT: WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM

Hi readers, Amanda here. Another dreaded issue in this story arc, and no one continues to be safe, you follow me? Pouring one out for our dear friend, Axel, tonight. I'm not sure how the Governor has survived so many close calls either... we can only hope his luck might be running out.

If you're keeping tabs on it, Paolo Rivera's cover this issue is just a stunner, you don't want to miss these last two. See you back again in just two weeks' time as this arc comes to its dramatic finale, but until then enjoy these classic Letter Hacks!

Whoa, intense, huh?

Yeah, I think after this issue you guys can really get a sense of just how much things will be changing after this arc. Big things are in store for this book. These are very exciting times for all of the creative team. I hope you guys are digging it.

Not a lot of time for chatting here—so I'll dive right into the mail.

Dear Mr. Kirkman,

I started picking up the TWD trades about six months ago, after coming back to comics early last year. Three weeks ago I caught up, bought issue 43, and added 'Dead' to my reserve box. Wednesday, 44 was waiting for me and it was sweet indeed. I knew there would be some kind of battle...but I never expected the Governor to have to turn tail and run. And man, Andrea just gets more and more bad-ass. In fact, it's a testament to your storytelling prowess that I was so concerned about her...that I completely forgot to worry about Rick.

And now the insinuation is you're going to kill him.

I know you're really good with plot twists, but for the life of me I can't figure out which way you're going to go with this. Either way — if he lives or dies — I have no doubt the story will be typically engaging, emotional,

and riveting...

But please don't kill Rick.

Come on.

From the last two letters pages it seems some people have a problem with his sometimes-rigidly-enforced leadership. Personally, I never thought Rick overstepped his bounds. If anything it's when he's begun to believe this himself and allow others to make big decisions that things have usually gone horribly wrong. But even if he sometimes gets a little bitchy...

Don't kill Rick.

I'm not going to stop collecting or anything (at least I doubt it) if you do, but...man...I'll be sad. I mean, the guy just had a kid.

Come on.

All that pining over a fictional character...is directly due to the team on this book. I just want you to know I consider the characters in TWD to be the most realistically drawn (in both senses) and best-written characters in "genre comics" today.

(There might be some romance/emo-notebook/satire thing out there with better characterization, but I don't read that crap.)

(nor should you.)

And I have to second Karith Cashion's comments from the last lettercol. All you Grade A comics scribes are killing us. There's just too much talent out there. What with You, the Powers Guy, the Scary British Somnabulist Fetishist, The Cap-Killer, The Irreverent Irish Shit-Kicker (not to mention the Buffy Guy, the Spies, Sex, & Skullshirt Guy, and the Last-Man-Currently-On-The-Picket-Line) I have very little time to do housework or listen to charming stories about my friends' children or to complain about politics or reality TV or the religious right...

I can't figure out who you're talking about.

Wait...Oh...I guess I should thank you...

So...

Thanks for my favorite comic,
(and seriously, don't kill Rick.)

JB Love
Savannah, Ga

PS

Hey — if these characters last long enough, it would be really cool to see them make their way down here to Savannah. Our historic district would look great crawling with Charlie Adlard zombies...

I'll see what we can do about getting down to Savannah.

Now, regarding your comments on Rick... I can't really comment. The arc is called "no one is safe" so there's that... and what better way to illustrate that absolutely NO ONE is safe. Of course—why would I be so adamantly hinting at something coming up in the book? Wouldn't that just spoil things? Or maybe I'm trying to throw you off... or maybe, just maybe... he'll suffer a fate WORSE than death... Christ—who knows. I will say... the arc ends next issue... so all answers are contained therein.

Dear Mr Kirkman,
Thank you for writing the most addicting, and best zombie comic ever. I'm only curious about one thing. I was re-reading the first volume, and I realized that the escaped convict that shot Rick putting him in a coma resembles Axel a lot. Is it a coincidence, or will that be brought up later, if Axel was the escaped convict? Thanks for being awesome.

-Dylan Goldman

Pure coincidence... they really don't look THAT much alike. Axel isn't missing any teeth, I believe. It's just like Doctor Stevens, mentioned in issue 2, and Doctor Stevens from Woodbury. The first is named after my family doctor when I was a child... the other is named after none other than Terry Stevens, my friend and artist on a few of my early projects like Battle Pope Presents: Saint Michael.

Dear Robert & Crew

I'll try and keep this brief as I wrote a long brown nosing letter to Invincible today also. Walking Dead, amazing, awesome, always spectacular yadda yadda. Now onto my question. I've thought (And I'm sure others also) that a The Walking Dead TV series would be possibly the greatest serial drama/thriller ever. What's your opinion on this and

do you think it would ever happen?

Thanks, keep up the fudging excellent quality.

ReZourceman
Michael Jamieson,

All I can really say is that I'm ALL FOR IT. I can't guarantee it will ever happen, but I'd sure like it to. Who knows? Maybe some day. I often times get emails that say "have you ever considered making it a TV show on HBO?" Well... it's not really up to ME or it would have premiered years ago. So yeah... I'd love for it to happen, but I'd also do my best to make sure it was AWESOME.

Hey Kirkman,

I just read twd 44 loved it, bit of an anti climax but I'm sure they'll be back. I loved seeing the gov all pissed off after Andrea took out half his men seeing him punch that fat guy out of anger was funny. I was so worried for Andrea after seeing the cover to 44 the group really need her skills as a marksmen because Glenn can't shoot for shit. Rick is a dead man no one survives being gut shot like that and with their crude medical supplies he's fucked unless the blood is misleading and he's only been grazed. I hope so. Rick deserves a better death than that.

People have survived similar injuries... I promise. Still, though... it remains to be seen if Rick will.

It really shows that you've thought of every angle to make it as real as possible. The fact that the gov didn't all of a sudden show up with a swat team but a bunch of rag tag redneck survivors who can't shoot. Has he brought everyone from woodbury to fight?

Most of them.

You seem to dig criticism so here goes a couple of the wd trades I've bought mainly Volume 3 and 7 look like they were printed using a very crude photocopier the gray tones are so bad when you compare them to my single issues. Have you seen any like this? Also Invincible volume 8 was the same any comment?

Frankly, Quebecor, the top printer in the country, who printed these trades, has kind of gone downhill. It's something that really frustrates me, because I've been using them since my self-publishing days. Now, I thought copies that were that bad hadn't made it to circulation. A recent reprinting of Volume 3 got printed TWICE by Quebecor before we had to move it to another

printer because they just couldn't seem to print something that didn't look like crap. If you got your hands on a bad book, or two, chances are—they're not all like that. You should be able to return it to your retailer for a good copy. I apologize for the inconvenience. Unfortunately, in most cases, I get five copies to look over, and make sure are well-printed... before the whole run ships out, and so there's always the possibility that I'm seeing the BEST of the run, which is frustrating.

Anyway, I believe the problem is fixed now. We'll see.

Also compared to the Invincible trades The TWD trades are boring! No introductions, no rough sketches or behind the scenes character designs! All stuff us twd fans would love. How's about a pin up section in the twd singles like in Invincible?

Well, both books are by me, but I decided to try a different approach with TWD, which came out AFTER Invincible. With TWD, I try to make the trades the basic story—that's all you get. With the issues you get letters columns, like this one, and bonus stories like the Christmas tale that ran in issue 32—or wherever, which isn't in a TPB. I just wanted to try something different—and this book sells better! Now, there are next to ZERO sketches done for this series... most characters are designed on the page, there's no costumes to design or space ships or whatever like there is with Invincible, so there's not as much to share—so it makes sense to do this with the TPBs.

Now, as far as pin-ups go... I decided before the book shipped that I would never run pin-ups in this series. The reason for this is that it seemed like a very serious book to me, and I figured ALL the pin-ups would be random zombie drawings or even goofy little drawings featuring the characters doing funny stuff... and I felt that would undercut the tone of the series. So I decided not to run any pin-ups... and every pin-up I've ever been offered has been a random zombie drawing or a funny strip or illustration.

That's all I can find wrong with my favorite comic ever. I just got a special edition of night of living dead with a great documentary called reflections of the dead. Half of the actors in notld were shareholders and collaborators on the film. Did you know George Romero's first company was called Latent Image? Cool, eh?

I didn't know that—what a weird coincidence.

More zombie covers please?

I'll do what I can, I know Charlie likes selling

the original art to covers with zombies on it. Wait until you see the cover to 51—it's AWESOME!

Thanks for listening.
Scott Spencer
UK.

P.S. Kirkman for president

Give it time.

Hello Mr Kirkman!

I like your comic very much, it has the best character development and story of any comic I've read.

I've always loathed superhero comics and grew up with mainly underground comics, heavy metal and 2000AD as a kid so your comic fits me like a latex gimpsuit!

That's what I've always set out to achieve. GREAT mental image...

First and foremost I have to make an ugly confession of a crime for which I have no excuse good enough. I'm stealing your comic through the internet instead of ordering it from America and would probably never have started reading it if I didn't find it on the internet in the first place. Sorry for stealing the food from your baby's mouth! But this makes me think about something, would it perhaps be possible to start buying scans of your comic from your company's site in the future so I could support you without having to pay for overpriced imports? We don't have a local comic book guy either.

I'm currently exploring options for digital comics. It's something I'm very interested in.

Now for some questions, some of which you've probably already answered somewhere. Your letter pages are the first comic letter pages I've ever bothered to read, but I've got memory like a goldfish.

1) Do you guys that work with the book ever decide to make some zombies look like people you don't like in real life?

Not that I'm aware of. Although, Charlie does seem to draw ME as a zombie in almost every issue... so it's a bit unsettling.

2) What are your top 5 favorite supernatural creatures?

Um... Zombies, Werewolves, Vampires, God and

Spider-Man. Heh.

3) Do you sometimes yell at your letters when reading a question from a fan that you've seen at least a hundred times before?

Not often.

4) Do you like mudkips? I like mudkips.

No clue what a mudkip is.

5) Did you play a lot of dungeons and dragons when you were young?

Nope. I've never played it. Tony Moore and I played a lot of Vampire: The Masquerade.

As for comments, uh... I don't really have any, not my biz to tell you how to run your comic. However, I think a very unexpected twist would be if Rick and Tyreese became a gay couple, or if you killed off everyone and the story became all about the governor or if Michonne's other personality became a zombie and she tried to eat people.

I've considered the gay couple thing...

It took me a full sixpack of beer to amount enough courage to write this letter so I'd appreciate it if you decided to print it!

Fakename Obvious
From Sweden

I assume that's what we call over here, "Sweden" right? Unless that's a new country invented by Wayne Campbell?

Hey Kirkman,

I'm loving the series, keep up the amazing character development. In issue 44 the letter section said it's time to go from race to "extreme hatred of religion." I figured I'd write in as I'm someone who strives to follow Jesus (the son of God) but also hates religion. I don't mean to offend anyone, my POV is that Jesus hoped to break down the idea of religion, not start a new one. No matter anyone's belief I figured all fans of the Walking Dead series would be interested in what it says in Matthew 27:52-53 (any translation). It's one of the things most Sunday school classes would skip. Every time I read it, my reaction is always the same: WHAT!?! Enjoy.

Tyler Goodison
London, Ontario

P.S. If you print this thanks for the soapbox. If not, at least I got to point out the scripture to you and to let you know there is one more person in the world who enjoys your work

I don't have a bible... but I do have the internet. Zombies in the Bible. AWESOME.

Dear God of Comics,

THAT'S how you start a letter. Nice.

I just finished issue 44.. I must say, I was very happy with it (except Rick getting shot of course). In the back you mentioned that this would be a story arc to bring us through to issue 48. And that there would be a lot of changes. I can see this possibly going one of two ways (or maybe a way that I just don't anticipate, which is always nice). One, you could have Michonne go out with a small group, or by herself, and slaughter the sadistic leader of the group which could lead to everyone staying at the jail after he is gone. OR, you could have the other group win and everyone have to find a new place to live after they get kicked out of the jail, or worse be entertainment for the others.

Also, I am a HUGE zombie fanatic... and TWD is by far my favorite comic. You have taken the zombie genre to a whole new level. Unfortunately I got into TWD in the 30's. I have been scrambling to by the back issues, because let's face it, having the trades is nice but the comics you LOVE you want to own the issues individually. So you know, if you have any of those coveted first printing number ones I have a birthday coming up (wink wink).

Heh... I do have every issue, but you know... if I gave them to you—I'd have to share with the whole class.

I also have a question/comment to add before I wrap this up. As you are nearing issue 50, have you thought about a possible end in sight for the book? Or a rough estimate on how many more issues you see in the future? Personally though, I would like to see the book go on for as long as it can.. I don't want it to end any time soon.

I better see this in an issue (hehe j/k),
Jessica Mikesch

I guess now is as good a time as any to update people on the status of this book's life. I just got sales figures for 49, and it's another jump in sales, but we haven't been gaining every

single issue like we did for the first 40 issues or so. We've kind of hit a level, or are only going up slightly... but that's still amazing. If we started losing readers at a slow rate (which is what 99% of comics do) we could probably still make it until 150 before things started looking ugly. So sales-wise we're good. And we're not dropping in sales yet... and our trade paperback collections continue to outsell the majority of Marvel and DC TPBs. The Walking Dead Volume 6 was number 7 on the top 100 graphic novels of 2007 and Volume 7 was number 10. All the other volumes placed on the list, all pretty high as I recall... so we're doing great. Now, as far as I know, Charlie and Cliff are still having a blast, but I won't speak for them.

For me... I can't believe I'm already writing issue 50. That's amazing for me. I feel like I'm writing issue 5, I'm still very jazzed about doing this book, and I see a long, LONG road ahead of me on the series.

Dear Kirkman,

Not much to this issue really. Just...bang, blam, run for your lives! I wouldn't say I didn't enjoy it but, if everything is gonna change soon, then by all means! Wish I had more to say, just, same old same old; and yeah I know my letters haven't been that great recently either.

Sincerely,
Andrew J. Shaw

Yeah, your letters kind of blow, I mean... they're a bit stilted, they only take a second to read, and they don't come in with any kind of regularity. I guess I'll keep reading them. I guess.

Dear Irredeemable Kirk-man,

I enjoy your books. They are good. They are well written and the art is pretty. End of praise.

Questions!

1 - If The Walking Dead was a colour, what would that colour smell like?

What's a "colour?"

2 - A doctor tells you have three days to live, but they will be the best three days of your life - Do you laugh or cry?

Cry.

3 - You are fighting an enraged elephant - how do you win?

Body slam.

4 - If, for whatever reason, TWD becomes the next big thing, how far would you sell out? Would we see Zombie Pez Dispensers? Rick's Hand Lunchboxes? Governor Underroos?

All of the above. And I would also hire some ghost-writer to write the book for me while I retire to my giant money bin to admire my lucky dime. Spats.

5 - Will we ever see colour in between the TWD covers? I'm think a symbolic splash of red or something like that at a major major turning point.

Not interested in doing things like that.

6 - Zombies with guns - when?

Never. Romero's evolving zombies are his spin. Mine just keep rotting.

Up with the good work keep,
Uther Dean

Writing for thanks.

Kirkman-

First of all thanks for reading my previous letter and responding to it. I was excited that you did. Thank you!

Secondly I didn't mean to be confusing in my letter. My boyfriend, Jon, was a soldier training for his second tour in Iraq and passed away from meningitis. I'm sorry if I was misleading I didn't mean to be casual about his death but he always told me if he didn't come home from Iraq alive that I should be prepared to find a zombie at my door one day. When you are afraid for someone all the time, everyday, the only thing that keeps you going is laughter. I didn't mean to be casual because its the most awful thing I've ever dealt with and so many things about it piss me off but I didn't write to unload on you. When you wrote about losing your friend I was thinking of how angry I am too sometimes, I'm angry that I'll never laugh with him again or get to wake up in the mornings snuggled but because of him I still laugh everyday so I try to think of that. I don't know that you will miss the snuggling part so much with your friend, but....well maybe?

Sadly, no. But I guess I can see where you're

coming from. I just can't relate to that. I'm sorry if my response seemed insensitive.

Our humor and love of all things zombie was a big part of us.

Sorry I rambled a lot but while I was excited to see you had responded I was also upset that I was not clear enough in my first letter. I didn't want to fill up your mailbox explaining myself, but I felt like I needed to. Next time I promise to only write in with thought provoking questions and praise for how truly amazing you are.

Well, that's really NOT what I prefer but thanks. Thought provoking questions, yes... but praise about how truly amazing I am falls on deaf ears. I hear that shit all the time from my entourage and bevy of beautiful women who are always hounding me. I'm kind of numb to it now.

Anyways, I really only started to write to you the first time because you liked Passions, I got giddy and the ADD part of me kicked in as I was typing... thinking about zombies makes me think about Jon and thinking about Jon makes me think about zombies....

I understand.

I hope this letter has made a little more sense, if not oh well I can't help it if I'm a little crazy....

Thanks again for everything you guys do.

Brandy

Thanks for writing to explain yourself. I was just a bit confused, so thanks for clearing things up.

BTW- I am upset that Passions was canceled now I don't know what to watch when I have sick days.

Just avoid the daytime talk shows like the plague—those things are crazy. Most any soap opera these days is confusing in the most intriguing ways. I forget which one it was but there was 40 characters, about 8 plots handled between commercial breaks and there was all kinds of shit going on with a long lost dad, a woman at the docks trying to blackmail a dude, a police officer being double-crossed and I think there were aliens.

I've got to admit... if this comic thing ever dries up for me—I really, REALLY would like to write for a soap opera... so if anyone is reading this...

Dear Mr kirkman,

You sir are a FUCKER! I hate you so much, I love you! I can only imagine how many e-mails you are going to receive about this months issue №45. I consider myself a pretty tuff guy but this is tearing me up inside, I can't believe a fucking comic is pulling my strings like this! You KILLED my favorite character or the words exactly “ so I blew her FUCKING brains out “ words can't describe the pain swirling inside my very soul, AHHHHHHHHHHH!

I will always continue to spread the gospel on this amazing book and I hope it never stops,

Robert Flesch,

P.S. and since I got your attention I also love your ultimate x-men Great read there also!

Thanks, glad you like Ultimate X-Men. On the Michonne thing—I can't believe you fell for it! Don't worry—she's okay... for now.

You have a great horror comic book here, you know that, so I won't rant and rave about it. I just have one question. When is the video game? Just to let you know I interviewed a real zombie named Dead Pete. He claims he went to Haiti, dated some girl and then jilted her. Her father a shaman, injected him with something in a nightclub, made him into a zombie slave, and that he worked on a plantation for 6 months, until he got out of his zombie state. He wanted me to personally interview him, but claims he has lesions all over his body. I said, “no, I rather just interview you over the phone.”

Paul Dale Roberts

Good call... and crazy story. Do you have photos? Weird stuff. Video game? Who knows... maybe never. I'm certainly open to the idea.

I swear to fucking god, if you have michonne go out on a punk ass boba fett-esque death with a gunshot to the head, I will fucking scream, and never stop screaming until my goddamn lungs explode and then they'll have to send me issues of the Walking Dead to me in the hospital, lest i aggravate my condition horribly by ruining my newly sutured lungs. Seriously, i'm on fucking pins and needles here Kirkman, your book is too good for my health. Stop putting that heroin into the ink, i know you do, cause i'm sick, and it's bad.

-Adam

She's okay. I promise... no Fett-Death for her.

Dear Kirk-the-Man,

The dialog seemed very stilted this issue, like every character was rattling off a prepared monologue. That said, it wasn't so bad—there were some major happenings. I've seen in Previews that there's an issue where everyone is Dead And Buried...what then, do they all come back as zombies, too? Maybe I never thought to ask but, is this book black and white for any particular reason? Would you produce it in color if you could? I think the one real drawback to black and white is with the hair color...How Lucille Balle ever became famous as a readhead on a black and white show, I'll never know. By the way, this issue I'd rank last out of the four comics I read today.

Sincerely,
Andrew J. Shaw

Well, when we first started out, one of the reasons I made the book black and white was for cost. Not the MAIN reason, or even close to it, but I figured, y'know—if the book is meant to last for a good long time, I could probably make it to issue 25 even if sales were bad if it was black and white. Also, the book has a lot of GORE, in black and white gore is much more acceptable. See Kill Bill. So I figured we might reach a wider audience in black and white.

Also, Night of the Living Dead was black and white... and as mentioned in the Deluxe Hardcover... this book was originally pitched as a Night of the Living Dead comic, because that title is in the public domain.

Now, I could TOTALLY afford to make this book color, but y'know what... it just wouldn't be the same for me. So sorry... no color... ever. The only time I'd ever do it, is if this book came to an end while still successful, and the TPBs were selling huge, but then died out. I'd wait a few years, and then MAYBE... MAYBE do color collections. But I really don't like the idea of seeing the pages in color.

Like usual I had missed comic Wed. for about three or four weeks in a row and by the time I cleaned out my file I have about 40-something books to sort through. But lucky me since I have Buffy, Invincible and TWD mixed in with various X-Men (yes, Ultimate X-Men as well) titles and Initiative and Countdown crap. I have read through almost everything by now and like usual I always find TWD at

the very bottom of the stack. I have finally come to the conclusion that I'm afraid to read this book. Yep, I admit it in plain print. I am a complete pansy when it comes to opening up the cover of this title because thanks to all of your superb characterization I have come to know and love each one of your characters (well, I am kinda glad Carol bit it. She was a complete nutter).

Yeah, she kinda lost it.

As I stare at the cover of issue 44 I am wondering who is gonna make through these pages alive. I was very relieved with what you did with issue 43 because I wasn't sure if I was ready to deal. I know the story must go on, but I don't know if I'm ready to leave the prison behind. I was starting to like it there. It had become my safe haven. Well, Kirkman....wish me luck here. I'm gonna bite the bullet and get this over with. I would rather be getting a root canal than have to read this damn book.

Khicks
Dayton, Ohio

Uh... thanks. I think.

Man,

I just got caught up on Issue №45 and all I can say is what will you throw at us next? Anyone else about to join the ranks of the undead? How long do you think this series will run? I apologize in advance if you've already addressed this in a previous message but I am a relatively new fan. I started in October and just began devouring (no pun intended) TWD.

George

Issue 50 is the last issue. (kidding)

Okay kids, that's all we have time for this month. I'll see you all back here very soon.

Until then!

-Robert Kirkman

NÚMERO 47

SALA DE MONTAJE

con Robert Kirkman

TWD (47)

- (1) DISPARAN A MICHONNE... (3) PANELES.
- (2) MICHONNE COGE LA ESPADA.
- (3) ¿ASÍ FUE LA ÚLTIMA VEZ QUE LE VOLASTE LOS SESOS?
- (4) RICK + CARL.
- (5) COSAS.
- (6) A TODA PÁGINA — COMIENZA EL ATAQUE.
- (7) WOODBURY ATACA A LOS ZOMBIS...
- (8) LA CABEZA DE AXEL EXPLOTA.
- (9) NO PUEDEN TIRARSE AL SUELO. ZOMBISI
- (10) PATRICIA MUERE DISPARANDO BAJO LOS COCHES. MATANDO A LA GENTE DE WOODBURY. GRANADA...
- (11) TODO EL MUNDO ESTÁ MURIENDO — VAN PERDIENDO!
- (12) EL GOB DESPOTRICA "ESTAMOS TARDANDO DEMASIADO!" EXPLOSIÓN...
- (13) DISPARAN A BRUCE. ← DISCUTE CON BRUCE — LUEGO LE DISPARAN.
- (14) A TODA PÁGINA ANDREA ENCIMA DE LA CARAVANA — ARMA HUMEANTE.
- (15)
- (16) TANQUE ATRAVIESA LA VALLA!
- (17)
- (18) DISPARAN A BILLY...
- (19) HERSHEL SUPLICA QUE LO MATEN.
- (20)
- (21) RICK LORI + CARL CORREN PARA PONERSE A SALVO. CARL — MÁS DESPACIO!
RICK CORRE DETRÁS DE ÉL!
- (22) A TODA PÁGINA DISPARAN A LORI — EN EL PECHO. BEBÉ CUBIERTA DE MUCHA SANGRE.

RICK
LORI /
CARL
JUDY /
AXEL /
ALICE
HERSHEL /
BILLY /
PATRICIA /

DALE
ANDREA
GLENN
MAGGIE
GEMELOS
SOPHIA

Bien, ahora las cosas empiezan a desmadrarse, ¿o ya lo estaban? Sí, supongo que ya lo estaban. Este se convirtió en el arco definitorio del cómic durante una larga temporada. Pasaron tantas cosas en tan pocos números que, si echamos la vista atrás, probablemente fue la catapulta que nos lanzó al cómic Nº100. Consiguió devolverle a este cómic la sensación de que "cualquier cosa podía pasar".

Por cierto... pobre Axel. Qué muerte tan inesperada, perdida en medio del caos. Lo sigo echando de menos en la actualidad. Adoraba a ese personaje.

La trama de este número tiene varios cambios importantes, sobre todo cosas que se aplazaron para el próximo número, pero es divertido revisar la trama del número y ver lo vagamente que se planeó, y que luego, conforme escribía el guion, cambiaba las cosas sobre la marcha en función del ritmo del número.

Supongo que mi proceso de escritura tiene muchos pasos. A menudo he dicho, "No hago segundos borradores". Es bastante cierto. Cuando termino de escribir un guion de cómic, ni siquiera lo releo, me limito a enviárselo al dibujante. Sé que eso puede parecer de vagos, pero la verdad es que no veo esos documentos como algo que vaya a ver el público. No los lee un editor. No los aprueba un editor. Para mí, no son más que un correo electrónico entre el guionista y el dibujante. Si el dibujante tiene alguna duda, me manda un correo electrónico o me hace una llamada y lo resolvemos.

Pero la verdad es que cuando se escribe el guion, se trata de un tercer borrador. Guardo las escenas en mi cabeza y las desarrollo. Apunto notas para las escenas, como se ve a veces en los márgenes de estas tramas, o las escribo en un cuaderno, o en el bloc de notas de mi teléfono. Ese es el primer borrador. Luego hago estas tramas, en las que ordeno las escenas que he pensado, esbozo diálogos temporales y me cercioro de que la estructura esté bien. Luego viene el guion, donde paso la mayor parte del tiempo, la verdad. A veces cambian cosas de la trama, a veces drásticamente, otras veces no cambian nada, pero se van perfeccionando sobre la marcha. Y, por último, que es el paso más importante, una vez que las páginas están dibujadas, repaso los diálogos antes de la rotulación. Esta etapa es muy similar a la etapa de edición en la televisión y el cine. Puedo cambiar las escenas por completo, retocar, añadir o eliminar diálogos y darle el toque final.

En fin, no creo que esta manera de hacer las cosas sea única ni nada parecido, pero supongo que al echar la vista atrás y analizar todo, me doy cuenta de que hago un buen número de borradores durante el proceso de escritura de mis cómics.

Vamos allá.

NOTAS DE PÁGINA:

1: Para empezar... esta página tiene CUATRO paneles. No tres. ¿Veis cuánto cambia esta trama? Caray.

2-3: Está claro que este es otro caso en el que sabía de qué iba la escena y me limité a escribir una versión abreviada en la trama.

4-5: Lo de Rick y Carl se movió a la página 5 (y 6), y aquí se agregó la escena con Lori. Ni IDEA de por qué intenté meter con calzador más escenas entre Lori y Rick en el cómic. Y la verdad... es un tanto trágico el hecho de que su relación esté en un punto tan malo en este momento.

6: Aquí es donde las cosas empiezan a acumularse. El ataque se retrasa a la página 6. En cambio, hay más preparación y desarrollo en la página 7 que no estaba planeado. La escena de Carl era importante y se amplió. Lo que aparece en la página 7 es una buena parte de la historia y un interesante vistazo a Axel antes de que muera, pero se añadió para que el ataque se produjera en un paso de página.

8: Esto se pasó a la página 10, y su cabeza no EXPLOTA de verdad.

9: Dejo huecos a propósito para rellenarlos cuando tengo la sensación de que las cosas van a cambiar mientras hago la trama.

10: Esto se ha perdido por completo. Se retrasó un número (spoilers). Salvo la muerte de Patricia, el resto de la página sale en este número. Y con eso, la trama vuelve a estar a la par con el número.

12: Esto iba a ser una explosión a toda página, pero la sección tachada y de abajo se metió en esta página para ahorrar espacio.

13: ¿Este tipo se llamaba Bruce? A veces... solo a veces... no menciono los nombres de los personajes lo suficiente en los diálogos (la veces lo hago con demasiada frecuencia!).

14: Pistola humeante se convierte en pistola disparando porque... ¿mola más?

15-16: Aquí añadí un poco de acción con Andrea y... DEP la caravana. Si tuviera que volver a hacerlo, tal vez le habría dedicado un momento más importante. A ver... era un vehículo importante para la historia. Pero bueno...

Además, tanque atraviesa la valla se pasó a las páginas 18 y 19 para una gran doble página. ¡TÍO, me estoy comiendo todo el espacio del final de este número!

18: Disparan a Billy... bueno, el próximo número debió ser muy fácil de planear, puesto que retrasé todo esto.

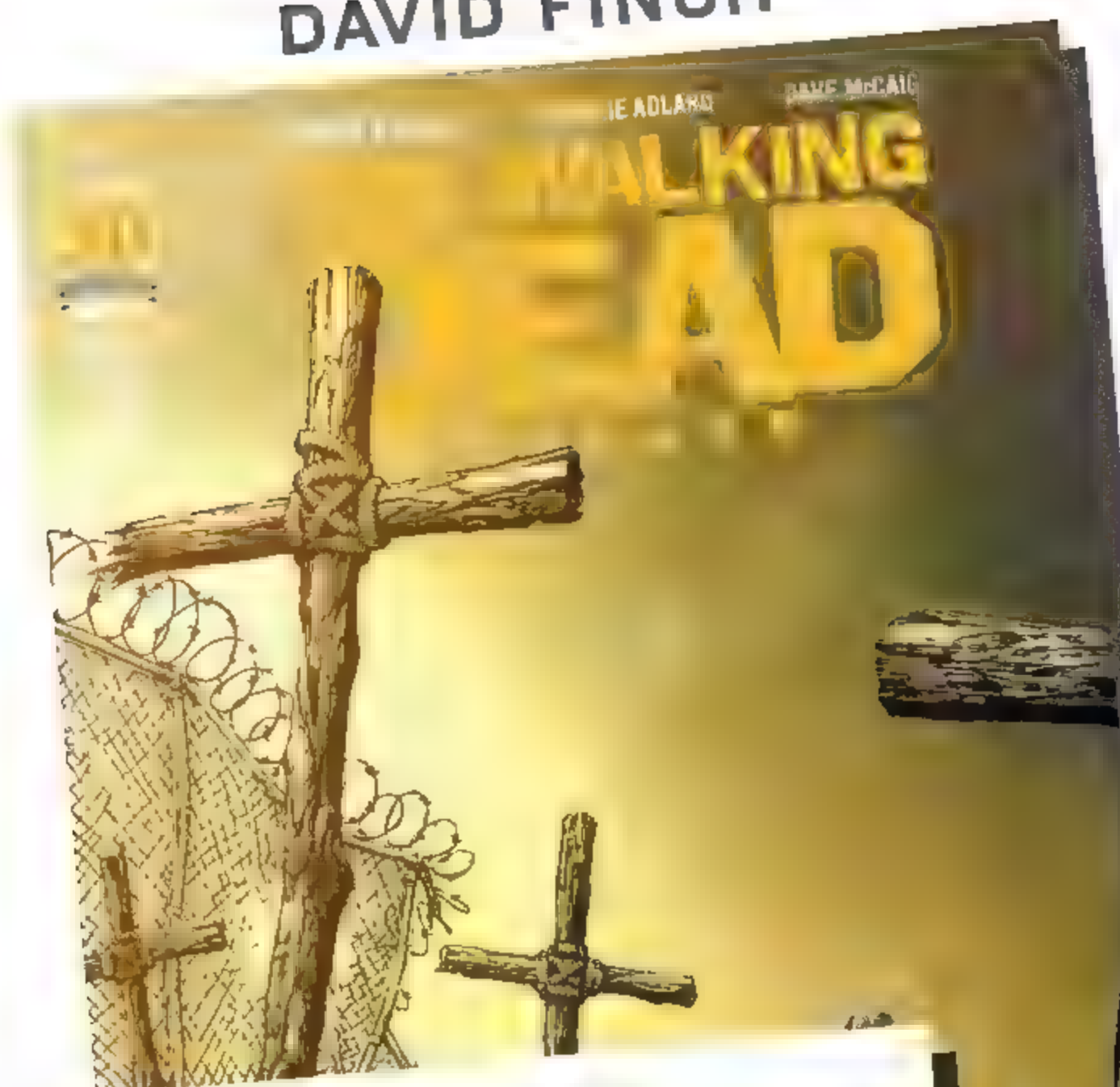
19: Le pido mil disculpas a todo aquel que esté leyendo el número por primera vez y eche un vistazo a estas páginas al pasar. Aquí hay grandes spoilers.

21-22: La verdad es que no sé cómo habría sido el próximo número, si todo esto se hubiera metido en éste. Estoy convencido de que tenía un plan, pero sí... habría sido MUY diferente. Al final, decidí hacer el final falso que tenemos. Que es cutre, sí... pero teniendo en cuenta lo que viene después, pensé que valía la pena.

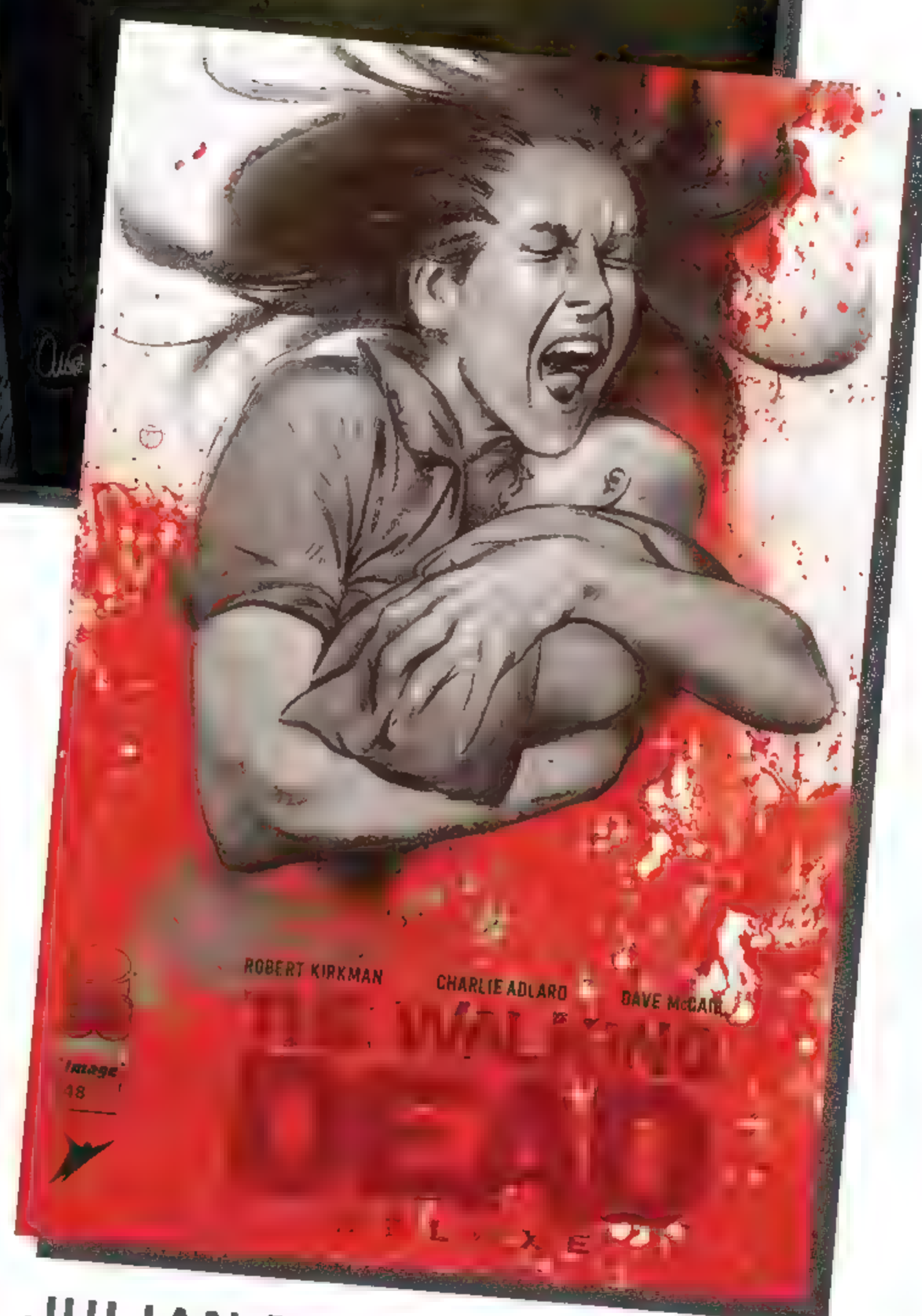
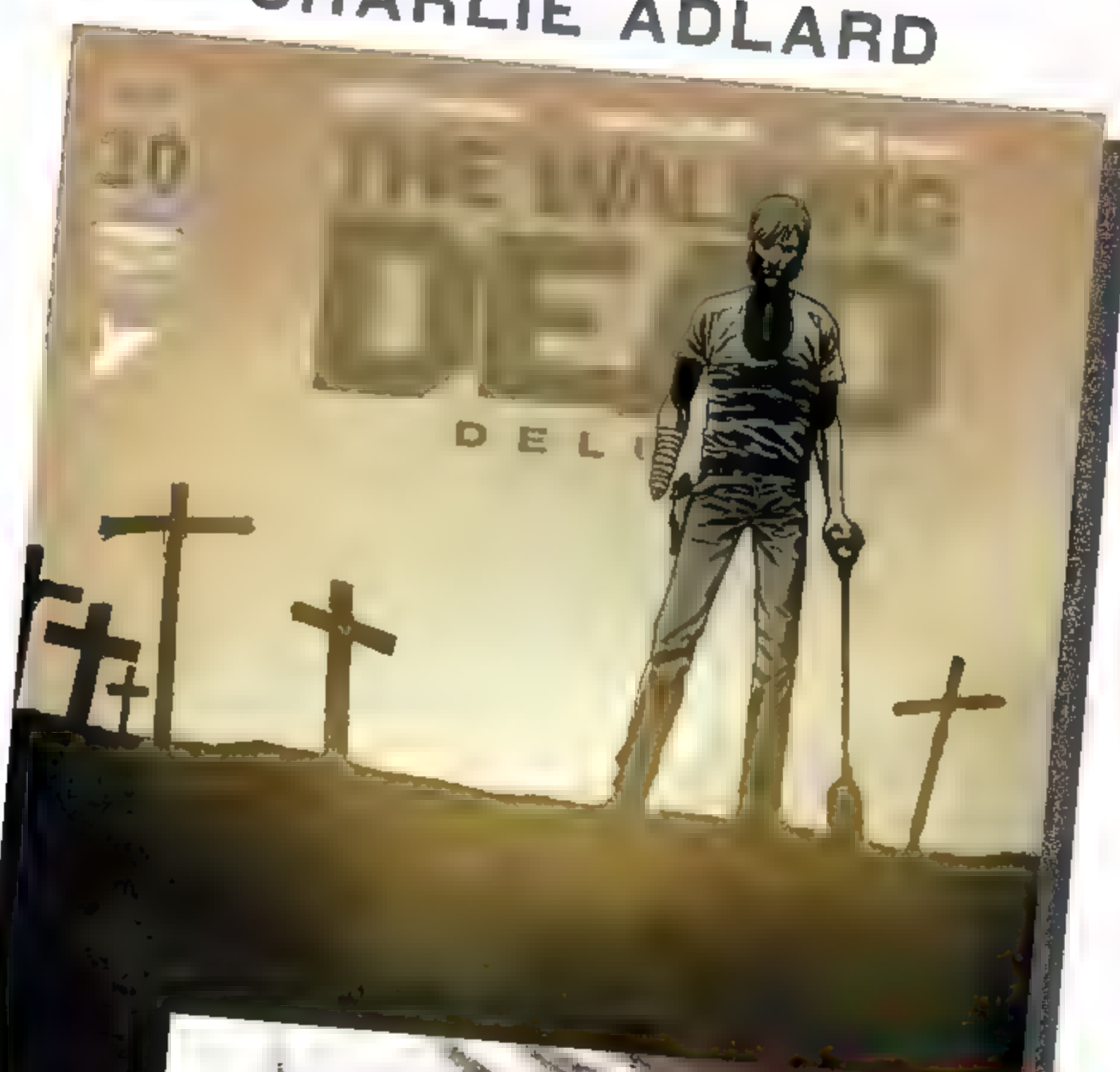
Una última cosa a destacar... la lista de personajes en la esquina superior derecha, esas marquitas junto a los nombres eran para los personajes que debían morir en este número... vaya, son muchos. Caray. (Dos carays en una misma entrega... ¿es un récord?)

“¡Sigue corriendo, Carl! ¡Corre lo más rápido que puedas!”

DAVID FINCH



CHARLIE ADLARD



PAOLO RIVERA

JULIAN TOTINO TEDESCO

NÚMERO 48

¡DISPONIBLE 5 DE OCTUBRE, 2022!



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